

Streams and Wetlands

Trees that fall into streams, like this one, provide shade for boreal toads and provide nutrients for downstream aquatic habitat. They also help to reduce the potential for flood water to turn the stream into a gully. Large trees that fall into larger fish-bearing streams help to provide pool habitat and cover for trout and other fish, as well as a home and food source for aquatic insects. Fish and amphibians feed on these insects. Please avoid disturbing these small streams and riparian areas so that they can continue to play their valuable role in ecosystems.



Boreal Toad



The bridge crosses a small stream within a riparian (wet) area. (The bridge was not yet installed when the photo was taken.)



This stream is formed by drainage from the wet meadow to the south and springs along the East Fork trail that feed into the meadow. Small drainage and wetland complexes like this are very important to functioning ecosystems. They provide habitat for a number of wildlife species, including the boreal toad, which is fairly rare in this area.

